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TAB C

FURNITURE AND FURNISHINGS

A major contribution to the administrative workload (stations manned by staff employees as well as for agents) is Agency ownership of a hundred or more household items which the agent must account for. It is believed that abandonment of accountings, might, in the long run, result in troubles worse than accounting, therefore, to avoid the problem, we should not enter the used furniture business. Most staff agents and career agents (this is seldom a problem in the case of contract agents) possess household furnishings substantially adequate to serve them abroad. If the agent is embarking on a long-term nonofficial cover assignment, it seems reasonable that he should take his furnishings and supplement them if necessary. If the agent has valuable possessions which he does not wish to take with him, the storage or disposition of them would seem to be his personal business. If the agent does not have adequate furnishings, and if they must be procured, as opposed to rental of furnished quarters, and if he is financially unable to provide the necessities, then he could be loaned a sum adequate for the purpose which could be repaid by salary deductions at Headquarters over a reasonable period of time. In any event, he should be the owner of the property so that inventories, accountings, and correspondence on the subject would be unnecessary.

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